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(54) Title: **NANOSTRUCTURES**

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to nanotubes and in particular to a process and apparatus for the preparation of nanotubes. In particular, the present invention relates to nanotubes which are made from materials other than carbon or nanotubes containing carbon but which would not ordinarily be classed as carbon nanotubes on account of their low carbon content. The nanos-  
tructures of the present invention have a number of applications such as: ionic conductors/battery components, hydrogen storage, templating nanowires, electrical devices, catalysis and synthesis, flat screen technology, and mechanical applications.

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